

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

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1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented system for managing a flow of network status messages to a network operations console, comprising:
a processor; and
a computer readable medium encoded with processor readable instructions that when executed by the processor implement,
a network status gathering mechanism configured to ascertain a network status,
a network status reporting mechanism configured to report said network status to said network operations console, and
a network status reporting level determination mechanism configured to determine a level of detail to report said network status to said network operations console based on at least one of user request and a predetermined allocation of bandwidth for use in reporting network status;
wherein regardless of the user request, the level of detail is limited to a maximal level permitted by available bandwidth.
2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein:
said network status reporting level determination mechanism is configured to determine said level of detail on a switch by switch basis.
3. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a flow of network status messages to a network operations console, comprising the steps of:
gathering network status;
determining an appropriate a reporting level at which to report network status based on at least one of user request and a predetermined

allocation of bandwidth for use in providing network status; and
providing network status to said network operations console at said appropriate reporting level from said determining step;
wherein regardless of the user request, the reporting level is limited to a maximal level permitted by available bandwidth.

4. (Currently Amended) A system for managing a flow of network status messages to a network operations console, comprising:
means for gathering network status;
means for determining an appropriate a reporting level at which to report network status based on at least one of user request and a predetermined allocation of bandwidth for use in providing network status; and
means for providing network status to said network operations console at said appropriate reporting level from said determining step;
wherein regardless of the user request, the reporting level is limited to a maximal level permitted by available bandwidth.

5. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, comprising:
a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a processor to facilitate the management of a flow of network status messages to a network operations console, the computer program code mechanism comprising:
a first computer code device configured to gather a network status;
a second computer code device configured to determine an appropriate a reporting level at which to report network status based on at least one of user request and a predetermined allocation of bandwidth for use in providing network status; and
a third computer code device configured to provide network status to said network operations console at said appropriate reporting level determined by said second computer code device;

wherein regardless of the user request, the reporting level is limited
to a maximal level permitted by available bandwidth.

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